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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/051,164	01/18/2002	Santosh C. Lolayekar	E003 - 1002US0	7069

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EXAMINER

VU, VIET DUY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2154

DATE MAILED: 01/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/051,164

Applicant(s)

LOLAYEKAR ET AL.

Examiner

Viet Vu

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 November 2005.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 and 21-26 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) 13-20 and 27-40 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☒ Claim(s) 25 and 26 is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 21-24 is/are rejected.
7) ☒ Claim(s) 11 and 12 is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

1. Applicant is requested to cancel withdrawn claims 13-20 and 17-40 in the next correspondence.

Art Rejections:

2. The text of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) cited in the previous office action is hereby incorporated by reference.

3. The rejection of claims 1-10 and 21-24 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dimitroff (6,209,023), in view of Blumenau (6,195,703), mailed July 8, 2005, is hereby incorporated by reference.

Allowable Subject Matter:

4. Claim 11-12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

5. Claims 25-26 are allowed over prior art of record.

Response to Amendment:

6. Applicant's arguments filed on 11/10/05 with respect to claims 1-10 and 21-24 have been fully considered but are not deemed persuasive.

Applicant alleges that Dimitroff fails to disclose the claimed invention because Dimitroff does not teach performing a storage service by the bridge such as mirroring, snapshot, etc., without buffering the data and that Dimitroff only teaches translating the commands.

The examiner disagrees. It is submitted that commands translation is in fact an important part of the storage service as disclosed by the present disclosure because without proper command translation the data storage operation can't be done (see pages 43-44). As admitted by applicant, Dimitroff teaches performing by the bridge virtualization of the certain command data including transmitting any required command data to the target storage device without buffering the command data (see col 3, lines 14-20 and col 11, lines 1-12). Since the present claims fail to recite more specific data storage operation including transmitting/moving other non-command data from a source to a target device without buffering the data as applicant alleged, the examiner submits that Dimitroff's teachings meet the claim limitations.

Applicant also alleges that the combined references fail to teach the claimed invention because the secondary reference, Blumenau, teaches employing a cache in the storage switch.

The examiner disagrees. It is submitted that Blumenau's cache is used in certain storage operations. This cache is not used in translating command data as disclosed in Dimitroff. Blumenau is cited to show the use of storage switch for routing data from the source to target devices. The fact that Blumenau shows additional limitations not claimed is irrelevant.

Per claim 21, applicant alleges that Dimitroff does not teach the concept of mirroring.

The examiner submits that Dimitroff's command translation is applicable to any conventional data storage operations including translating data copying and mirroring commands at the bridge/switch. Again, in the absence of specific mirroring data operations found in the present claims, the combination of Dimitroff and Blumenau are seen meeting the claim limitations.

Conclusion:

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS FINAL ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ACTION. IN THE EVENT A FIRST RESPONSE IS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS

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OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION AND THE ADVISORY ACTION IS NOT MAILED UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE THREE-MONTH SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD, THEN THE SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON THE DATE THE ADVISORY ACTION IS MAILED, AND ANY EXTENSION FEE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE ADVISORY ACTION. IN NO EVENT WILL THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE EXPIRE LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Viet Vu whose telephone number is 571-272-3977. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:00am to 4:00pm. The Group general information number is 571-272-2100. The Group fax number is 571-273-8300.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee, can be reached on 571-272-3964.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



VIET D. VU
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Art Unit 2154
1/10/06